



## Waste Reduction Pilot

Q1 Webinar, Business Case  
Wednesday February 17, 2021  
2 – 3 pm EST

# Waste Reduction Pilot

Quarterly calls: What do we hope to get out of them?

- Spotlight Leadership
- Share Best Practices
- Present Valuable Resources
- Provide a Forum to Share Challenges and Opportunities





# Agenda

- 1** Introduction & Waste Reduction Pilot Program Updates
- 2** Heidi Frasure – Sustainability Team Leader  
Steelcase
- 3** Brie Fulton – Sustainability Program Manager, Berkeley Lab
- 4** Q&A and Resources



# Thank you, Waste Pilot Participants

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## Industrial

- Armstrong Flooring
- AstraZeneca
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Cooper Standard
- Cummins, Inc.
- Electrolux
- Estée Lauder
- Flowers Foods
- FMC Chemicals
- General Motors
- Gibraltar Industries
- Graham Packaging
- HARBEC
- Honda North America
- Johnson Controls
- KYB Americas

## Industrial

- Lockheed Martin
- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Martin Guitar
- Nissan North America
- NSK Americas
- PaperWorks Industries
- PPC Online
- Schneider Electric
- Steelcase, Inc.
- Sugar Creek Packing Co.
- Raytheon Technologies
- Valmont Industries
- Volvo Group North America

## Commercial

- Bozzuto Management Company
- City of Reno, NV
- Commonwealth Partners
- The Hartford Financial Services Group
- Jamestown, LP
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Montefiore Medical Center
- New Bedford Housing Authority
- Parkway
- Shorenstein Properties, LLC
- Sprint
- Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corp.
- The Tower Companies
- USAA Real Estate
- UW Health
- The West Palm Beach VA Medical Center\*
- DWS



# Welcome New Partners to the Pilot!

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*Industrial*



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*Commercial*





# Waste Pilot Team

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## DOE

- Robert Bruce Lung, Senior Technical Advisor, BGS LLC, AMO
- Eli Levine, AMO
- Ethan Rogers, AMO
- Hannah Debelius, ORISE Fellow, BTO

## ICF

- Clifton Yin, embedded in AMO

## RE Tech Advisors

- Andrea Doukakis, embedded in BTO

# Program Updates



DATA – Corporate level data is due March 1<sup>st</sup> (BBC partners use portfolio manager, Better Plants partners use reporting form)



Next quarterly call in the **Summit** – Registration opened on 2/16/21



Monthly email bulletins and other resources on our [home page](#)

# Working Groups Update

## Plastics



- Focused on plastic reduction, recycling, and reuse
- 2 calls held. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and last call is on Feb 24 and will feature a speaker from the American Chemistry Council. Reach out to Bruce if you'd like more information

## Outreach & Engagement



- Focused on outreach, education, and engagement of building occupants for waste reduction and diversion
- This working group is now closed. Please see the “Top 5 Waste Outreach & Engagement Tips” fact sheet for findings from the working group.

# Poll: Working Groups

**Multiple choice** ▾

Would you be interested in participating in the following working groups? (select all that apply)

- Related to your industry sector
- Circular economy/design to reduce waste
- Sustainable materials in waste reduction
- Energy recovery from waste
- Add option

Mark correct answer

Limit number of options to select: unlimited ▾

Create a survey

Save

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new window

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**#WASTE**



# Robert Bruce Lung

Senior Technical Advisor, BGS-LLC

Today's topic:

Making the Business Case for Waste  
Reduction/Recycling

# Poll: Making The Business Case

Please go to [www.slido.com](http://www.slido.com)

using your mobile device, or by opening a new window

Enter Event Code

**#WASTE**



# Today's Presenters

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**Heidi Frasure**  
Steelcase



**Brie Fulton**  
Lawrence Berkeley National  
Laboratory



Heidi Frasure  
Sustainability Team Leader  
Steelcase

# Steelcase

The Business Case for Reducing Waste  
February 2021



# Steelcase

[Who are we?](#)



# Our purpose is to unlock human promise— it is fundamentally grounded in Sustainability



**Environmental**  
**Healthy Planet**

Create products and operations  
that are good for the world.



**Social**  
**Healthy People**

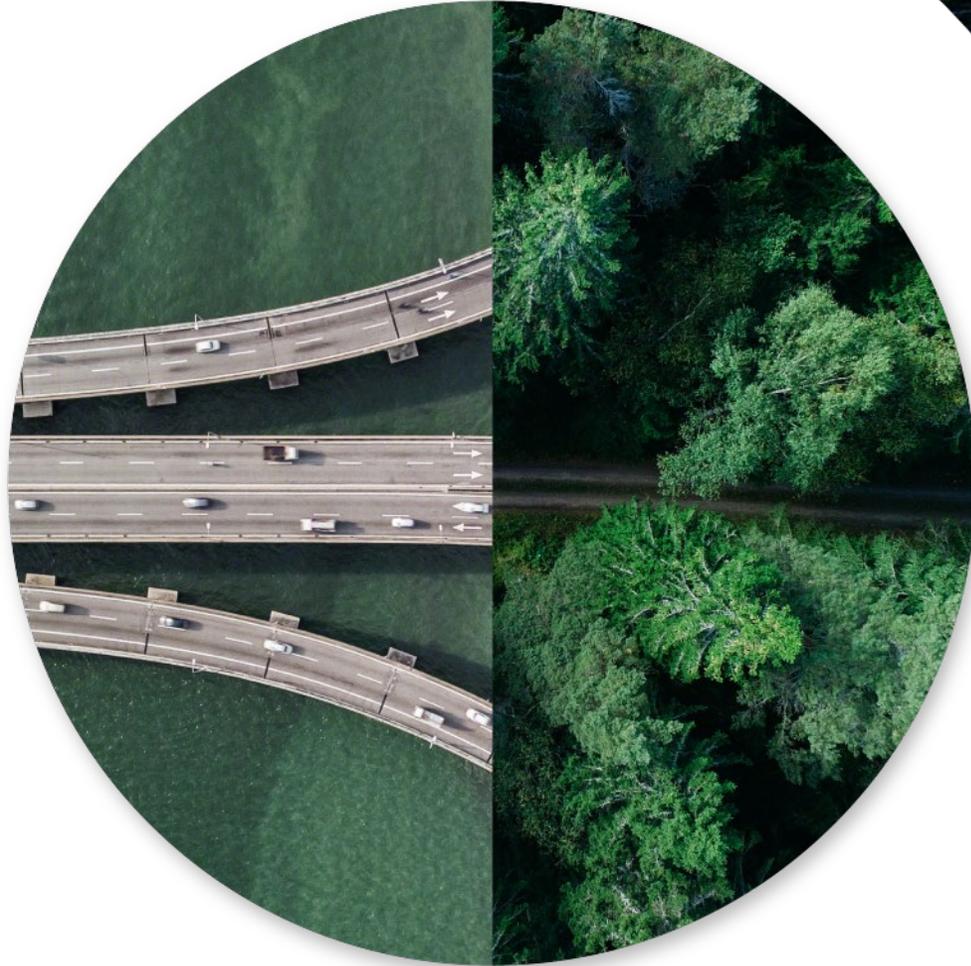
Cultivate opportunities for people  
and communities to thrive.



**Governance**  
**Healthy Culture**

Curate a culture of trust and  
integrity.

- Business Case
- for Reducing
- Waste



Historically recycling materials from our own manufacturing process was economical and fairly simple...

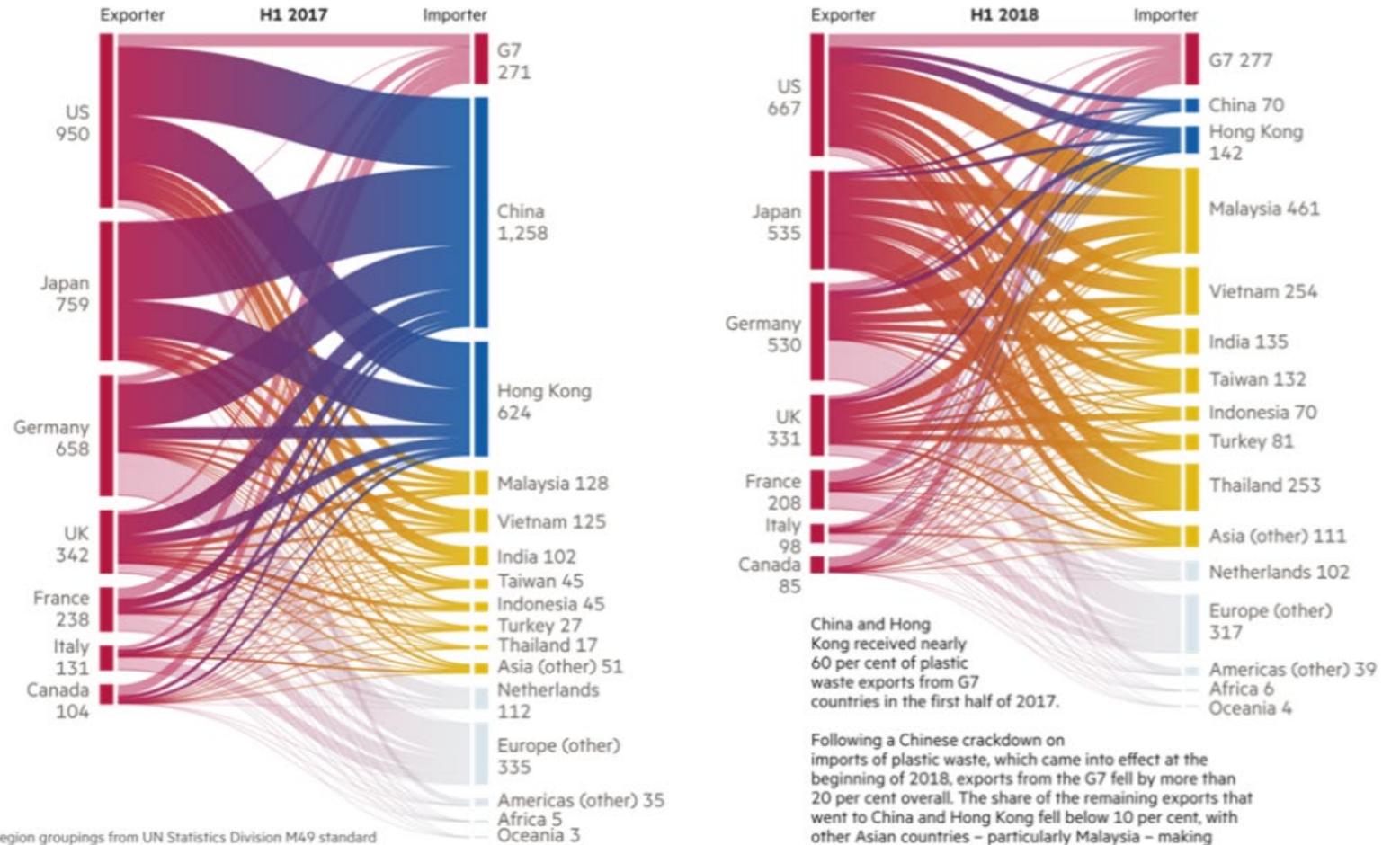


Until 2018...

# Global Plastic Imports & Exports

How the global river of plastic waste changed course in just 12 months<sup>6</sup>

Exports of plastic waste, parings and scrap from G7 countries ('000 tonnes)



Region groupings from UN Statistics Division M49 standard  
 Data accessed Sep 19-Oct 1, 2018  
 Sources: US Census Bureau; Japan e-Stat; Eurostat; Statistics Canada  
 © FT

China and Hong Kong received nearly 60 per cent of plastic waste exports from G7 countries in the first half of 2017. Following a Chinese crackdown on imports of plastic waste, which came into effect at the beginning of 2018, exports from the G7 fell by more than 20 per cent overall. The share of the remaining exports that went to China and Hong Kong fell below 10 per cent, with other Asian countries – particularly Malaysia – making up much of the shortfall.

Visual journalism: David Blood, Liz Faunce, Aendrew Rininsland

Source: [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/6-How-the-Global-River-of-Plastic-Waste-Changed-Course-in-just-12-Months\\_fig4\\_338687511](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/6-How-the-Global-River-of-Plastic-Waste-Changed-Course-in-just-12-Months_fig4_338687511)

# Focus Areas

**What materials still have value in recycling? How do we get the highest value for these commodities?**

- Shrink wrap/plastic wrap
- Cardboard
- Metals
- Pallets

**Are there opportunities to donate scrap materials?**

- Fabric

**Who are the partners we should be working with that can help support?**

- Changed vendors for recycling
- Added new vendors
- Expanded donation networks

**How can we help our customers?**

- Hack the Pack
- Pilot studies
- Dealer consulting
- Fabric donations for rugs



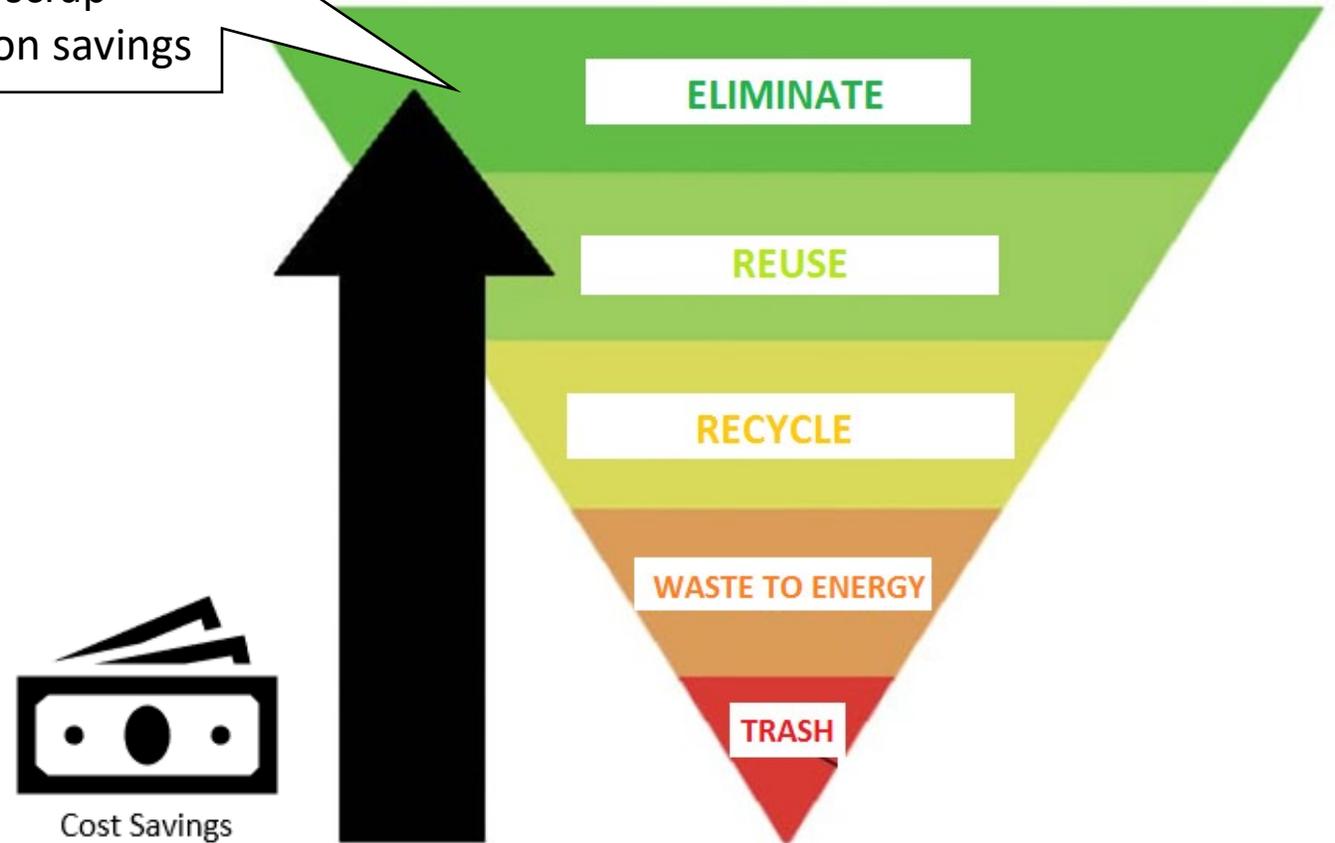
# Eliminate the Waste in the First Place

Focus on the commodities you are sourcing and manage them more responsibly. This is where the big \$\$\$ cost savings resides. Better utilizing sourced materials not only helps save money, but it also prepares us for a resource scarce world and the negative impacts from Climate Change on our continued ability to source the commodities we need to do business.

This goes beyond zero waste to landfill goals, it's about survival.

In one of our plants, there was over \$2M in opportunity/yr. for scrap reduction savings

## WASTE HIERARCHY





**Focus on materials that still have a value in the recycling market, to offset other costs to recycle...**



# Examples

Through partnerships we were able to find outlets for materials that were otherwise destined for landfill. In doing so we were able to create a revenue stream from these commodities and save in landfill costs, totaling to over \$100K/yr.

By focusing on the business case and using a simple ROI calculation we were able to gain buy-in from leadership to make decisions that impacted operations and build new collaborative partnerships.

## Shrink Wrap/Plastic Wrap

We started baling all plastic wrap and set up a drop trailer solution with Trex Decking. When the trailer is full of bales, Trex coordinates a pickup, and hauls free of charge. They use the plastic as a feedstock for new decking products.

## Local Donations

Reaching out to local non-profits to see if they have any interest in waste streams or scrap has added value to not only Steelcase but also our communities in which we do business. In the Grand Rapids area we have donated over 300 tons of fabric to local partners like public thread, who makes new products from our waste. Some of which we have purchased back to use as customer gifts. Donating materials saves in landfill costs and provides feedstock to support our local communities.

## Cardboard

We started baling all cardboard and negotiated a relationship with Pratt Paper to go direct to the papermill. This bypasses local recyclers and allows for Steelcase to receive market value for the cardboard bales. Pratt utilizes 100% recycled content in their products, some of which Steelcase buys back to use as packaging material.

## Packaging Projects

We wanted to not only focus on our own waste in our manufacturing processes, but also try to improve the recyclability of the packaging we are sending to our customers. We started a journey we call "Hack the Pack" that is a collaborative effort to rethink how we design packaging solutions to be more sustainable, while also maintaining the integrity of the product through transport. In this journey we have had several win-win-win opportunities where we not only found more sustainable solutions, but we also saved money in doing so while maintaining the product quality.

# Hack the Pack

We are also focused on improving the recyclability of our packaging materials and have found that there are cost savings opportunities in doing so. We have found over \$1M/year in cost savings opportunities by switching from foam to fiber-based packaging.

We are constantly looking for win-win-win opportunities, keeping sustainability, quality and costs in mind.

Before



After



# Donations & Community Partners

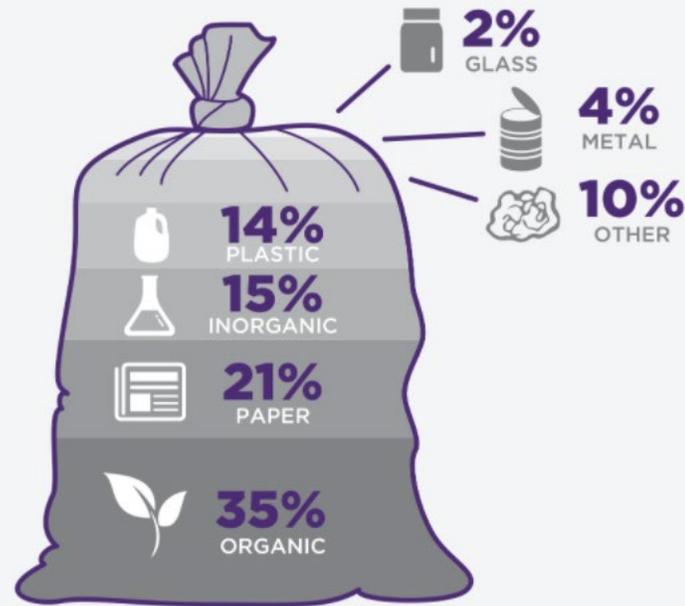
Develop networks and relationships with local community partners. Donations are typically cost neutral or can be a cost savings by reducing disposal costs. They also serve to better our local community and businesses.



# Advocacy

Don't forget to advocate for better resources to do what is right. Composting is typically a cost savings. If sustainable solutions are not available in your community, you can have a seat at the table as a local business to advocate and negotiate for more sustainable and cost friendly alternatives to landfill.

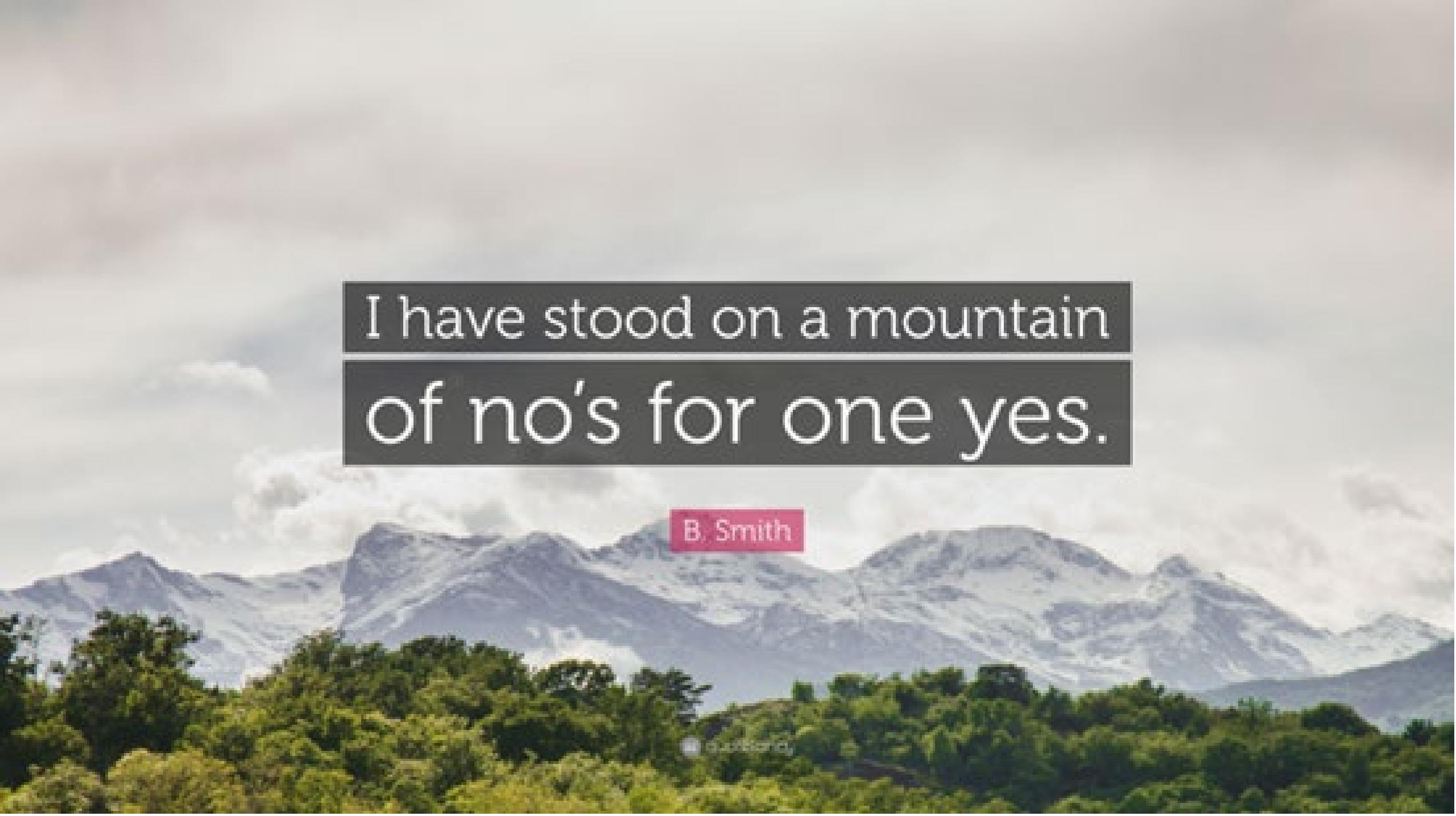
## What we throw away in West Michigan:



## What the trash we throw away is worth:



Source: <http://www.reimaginetrash.org/>



I have stood on a mountain  
of no's for one yes.

B. Smith



Brie Fulton  
Sustainability Program Manager  
Berkeley Lab

# Building Building Tactics to Zero Waste



Brie Fulton | February 17, 2021

 **SUSTAINABLE BERKELEY LAB** •

[sbl.lbl.gov](https://sbl.lbl.gov)



# SBL Waste Program Priorities

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## Improve Data

- Obtain accurate Waste Diversion by Site and Building
- Find out what is in the bin
- Learn about contamination and sorting habits

## Meet Goals

- Zero Waste: > 90% of waste must be diverted from the landfill
- Reduce waste generation by 50% per capita from 2016/2017 levels by 2030

## Program Resources

- Central 4-bin waste stations in every building with good bin signage
- Online “Waste Guide” shows people how to sort & explains what happens beyond the bin

# Closing the Gap

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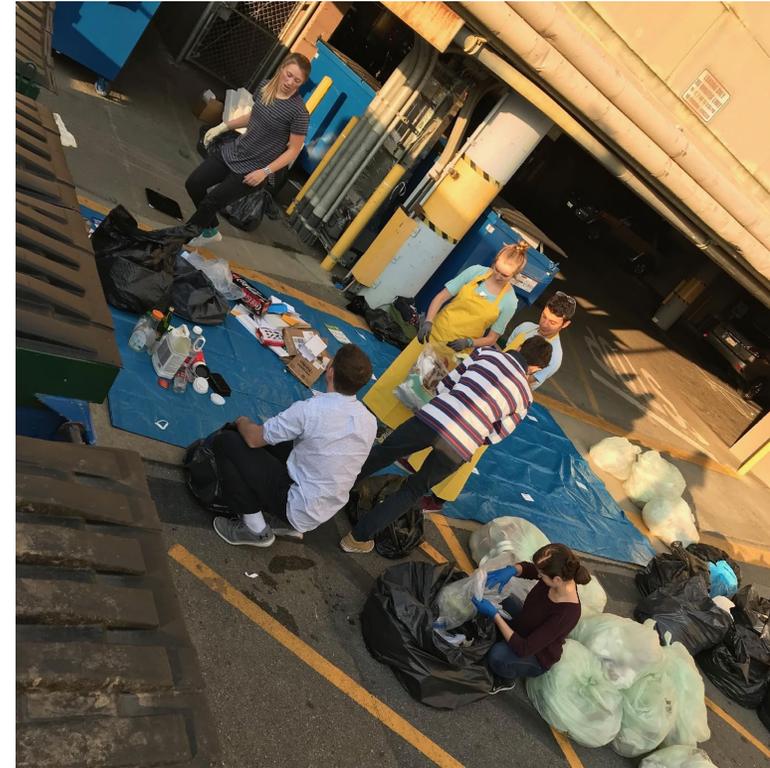
- How to close the green gap?
  - Focus on the biggest opportunity
  - Waste from buildings
  - Current hauler gives weights quarterly
    - This leaves a lot of unanswered questions
    - Audits give us answers we need

# Incentives Built into the Contract

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- Waste hauling contract incentivises waste diversion
  - Existing recycling grandfathered in- no cost
  - Composting costs less than landfill

# Waste Audits



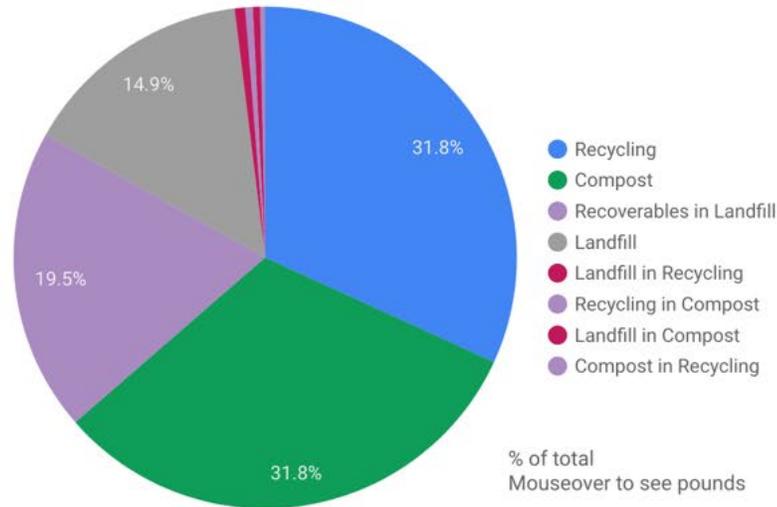
# External View of Audit Results

## Waste Diversion: **The goal is >90% by 2020**

### Diversion at Berkeley Lab

Percent Diverted Correctly  
**64%**

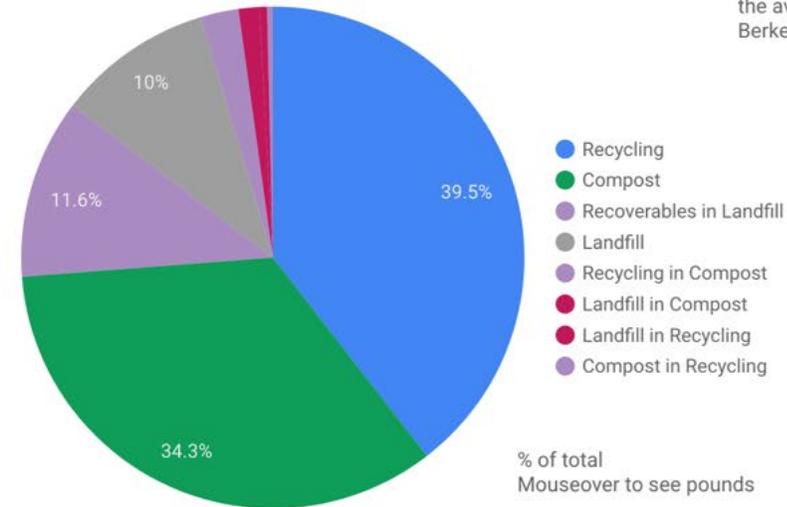
Percent that Could be Diverted  
**84%**



### Diversion by Building

Percent Diverted Correctly  
**74%**

Percent that Could be Diverted  
**88%**



Building: 50 C... (1) ▾

Select one building above and compare results to the average diversion at Berkeley Lab to the left

Recoverables in landfill = Items that should have gone in the recycling or compost bins but were not sorted correctly. Results reflect the last audits completed at each building. See Page 2 for a comparison of results by building.

# External View of Audit Results

## Waste Diversion Comparison by Building



# External View of Waste Stream

## Material Streams

Weight in lbs  
4,785

Diversion Rate  
65%

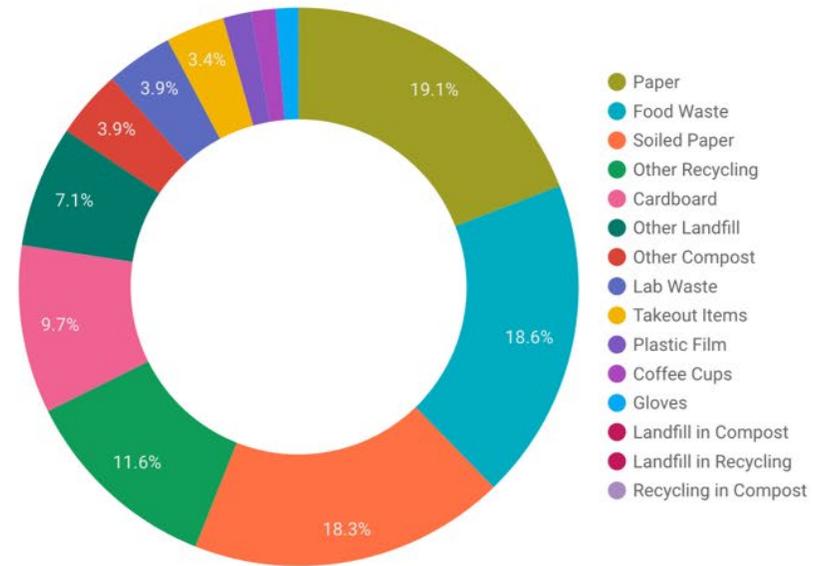
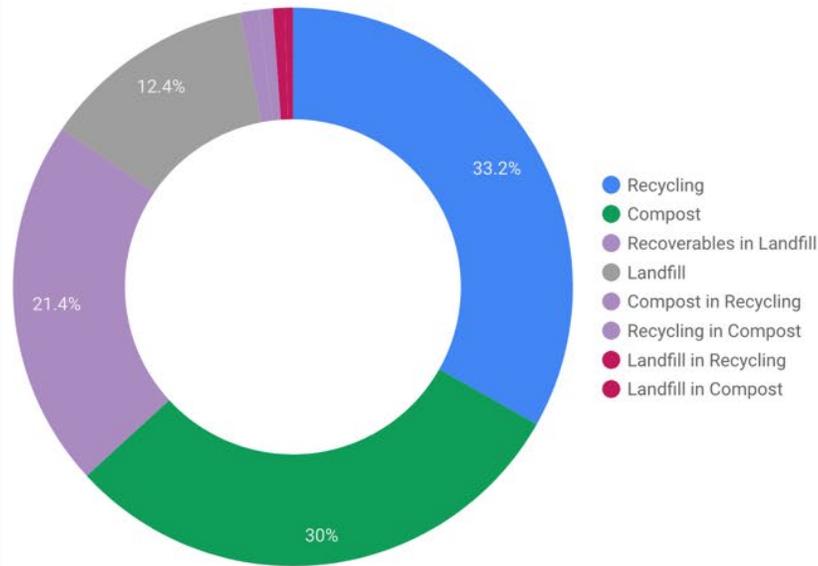
How much of food waste ends up in the compost?  
What materials are composted correctly?  
What are the primary recyclable items incorrectly put in the compost?

Building

Date

Streams

Substreams



This slice-and-dice viewer is intended for an internal audience, to extract results from the waste audit data. The default view includes aggregate data for all buildings, for all audit dates. Note that results aggregate based on weight. The total weight of each stream across all selected buildings and audits are added, then expressed as a percentage of the total weight of the material stream. The drop downs at the lower right filter the entire report to view material collected from under desk bins only, or to just look at the last audit for each location.

For underdesk bins only, select Y

For the last audits only, select null

# Sorting Behavior

## Contamination

Building

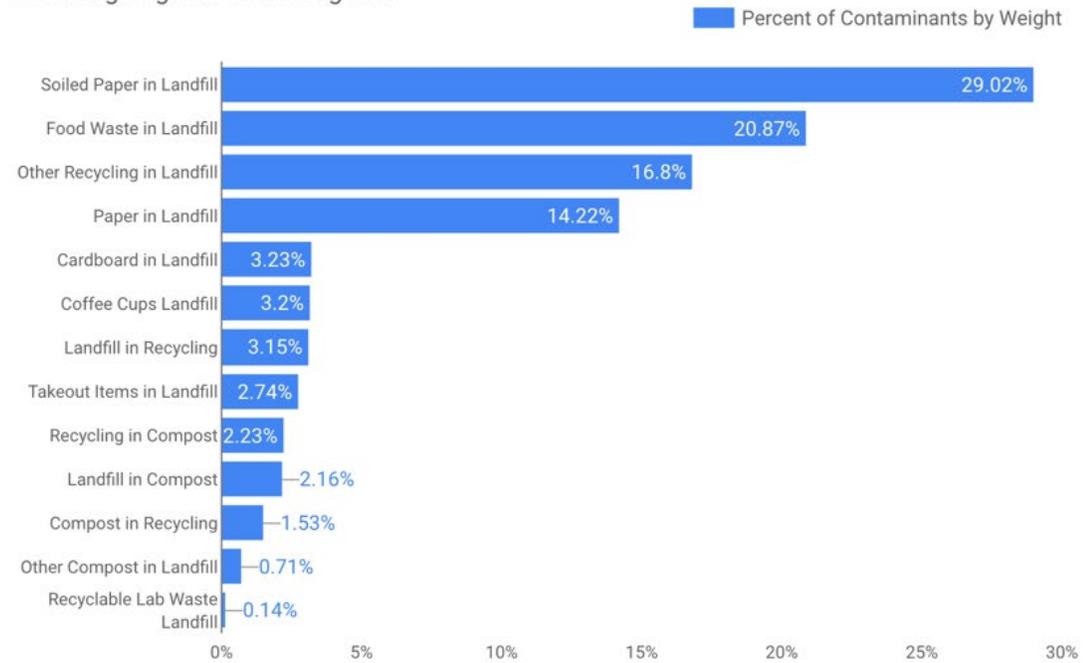
The default shows aggregate data for Berkeley Lab. You may select individual buildings above.

Contamination of Compost  
**2.9%**

Contamination of Recycling  
**3.1%**

Contamination of Landfill  
**56.7%**

What is going into the wrong bin?



# Waste Guide

Select Language | ▼

What do I do with...



Other Recycling



Paper Recycling



Compost



Landfill



Lab Waste



E-Waste



Excess Services



Special Instructions

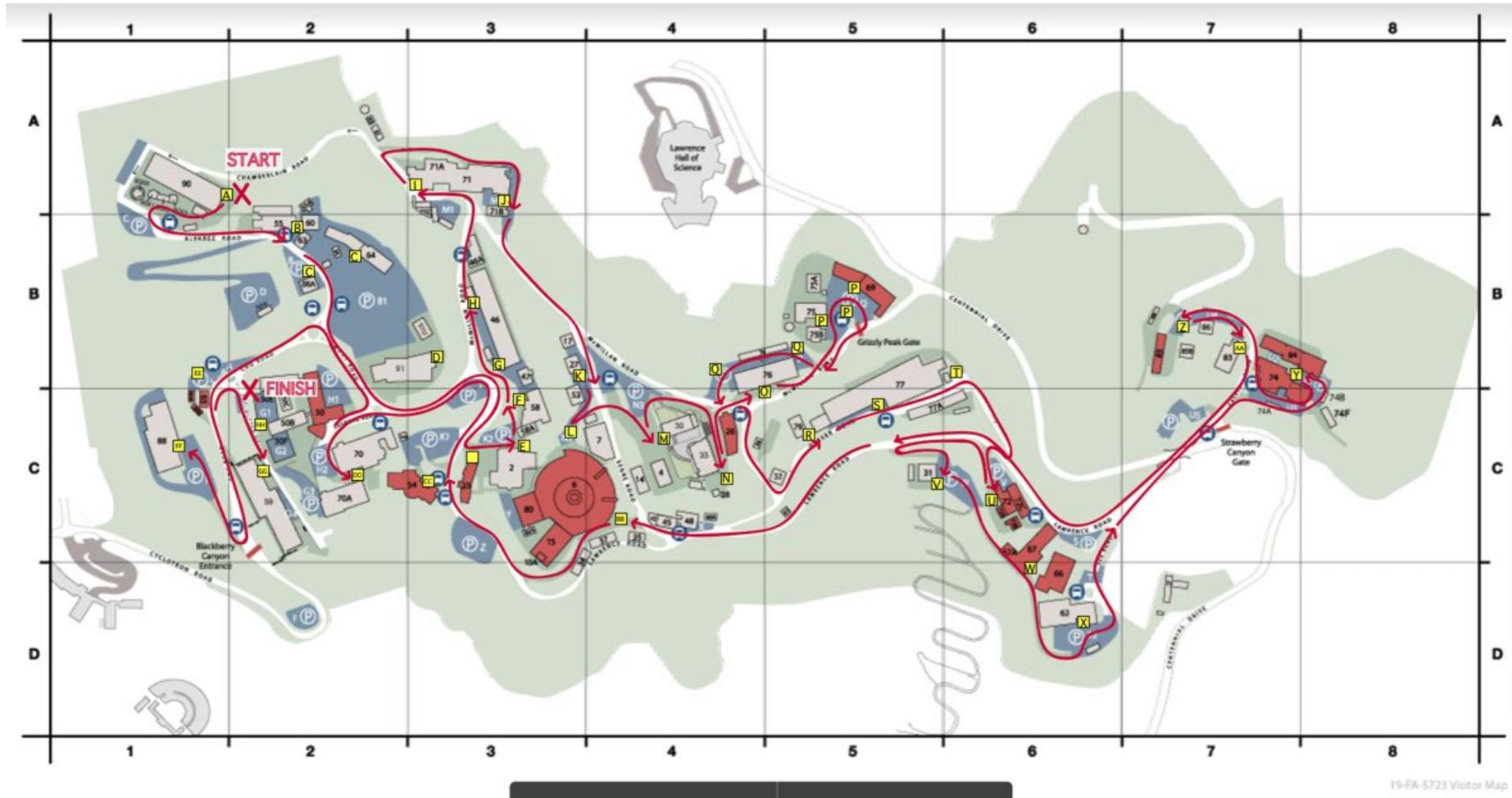


Takeout Items



Bulbs & Batteries

# Site Map



# Fullness Audit Analysis

Pages



Audit Report for Landfill - including Fullness Ratio

Audit Date Results for Landfill, Grouped by Location

QA/QC: Raw Landfill Data Grouped by Location

Reference: Source of Statistics Calculation for Landfill data

Audit Report for Composting - including Fullness Ratio

Audit Date Results for Composting, Grouped by Location

QA/QC: Raw Compost Data Grouped by Location

Reference: Source of Statistics Calculation for Composting data

## Fullness Audit Report

Landfill Only

This report provides a Fullness Ratio to evaluate how closely the landfill dumpster space matches the volume of landfill material.

Days of Waste

Select date range

	Building	Avg. Adjusted Space (Cu Yd)	Avg. Available Space (Cu Yd)	Fullness Ratio (%)
1.	83	0.22	2	10.86
2.	58	0.42	2	21.07
3.	53/27/17	0.82	3	27.39
4.	55/60/63	0.66	2.32	32.42
5.	90	0.92	3.79	37.91
6.	77H	1.23	3	40.87
7.	74/84	1.44	3.36	43.81
8.	46B	0.88	2	44.03
9.	31A	1.08	2.49	44.8
10.	72	0.99	2	49.31
11.	69/75	2.02	4	50.48
12.	4/5/14	1.53	3	51.03
13.	46/46A	1.03	2	51.75
14.	65	1.16	2.04	56.66
15.	56/64	2.29	4	57.26
16.	70/70A	1.2	2.02	59.84

1 - 31 / 31 < >

Adjusted Space is an estimate of the volume of material that will be present in the bin at the time the bin is serviced (in cubic yards). The volume of material observed in the bin is scaled linearly to the time when the bin will be serviced.

Days of Waste indicates the number of days of waste accumulation observed in the audit. Audit results associated with higher Days of Waste are based on more actual days of accumulation, rather than more days of a scaled estimate.

Fullness Ratio is averaged over all audits within the selected date range, excluding Adj. Space values that are above one and a half standard deviation (Z=1.5) of the mean. Page 4 of this report explains how the threshold for excluding Adj. Space values is determined.



# Fullness Audit Report

Landfill Only

This report provides a Fullness Ratio to evaluate how closely the landfill dumpster space matches the volume of landfill material.

Days of Waste ▼

Select date range ▼

	Building	Avg. Adjusted Space (Cu Yd)	Avg. Available Space (Cu Yd)	Fullness Ratio (%) ▲
17.	59	1.8	2.95	61.07
18.	88	1.86	3	62.11
19.	2	1.25	2	62.59
20.	71/71B/71A	1.27	2	63.52
21.	54	3.23	5.5	64.02
22.	85/85B	2	3	66.67
23.	50 Complex	2.27	3	75.8
24.	91	3.89	5	77.78
25.	76/78W	2.52	3.13	81.37
26.	7	2.02	2.48	81.38
27.	77/77A	2.51	3	83.79
28.	30/33	1.82	2	91.1
29.	62/66	2.52	2.64	96.13
30.	6/15/45/48/80	2.4	2.61	99.22
31.	67	3.59	3	119.52

1 - 31 / 31 < >

Adjusted Space is an estimate of the volume of material that will be present in the bin at the time the bin is serviced (in cubic yards). The volume of material observed in the bin is scaled linearly to the time when the bin will be serviced.

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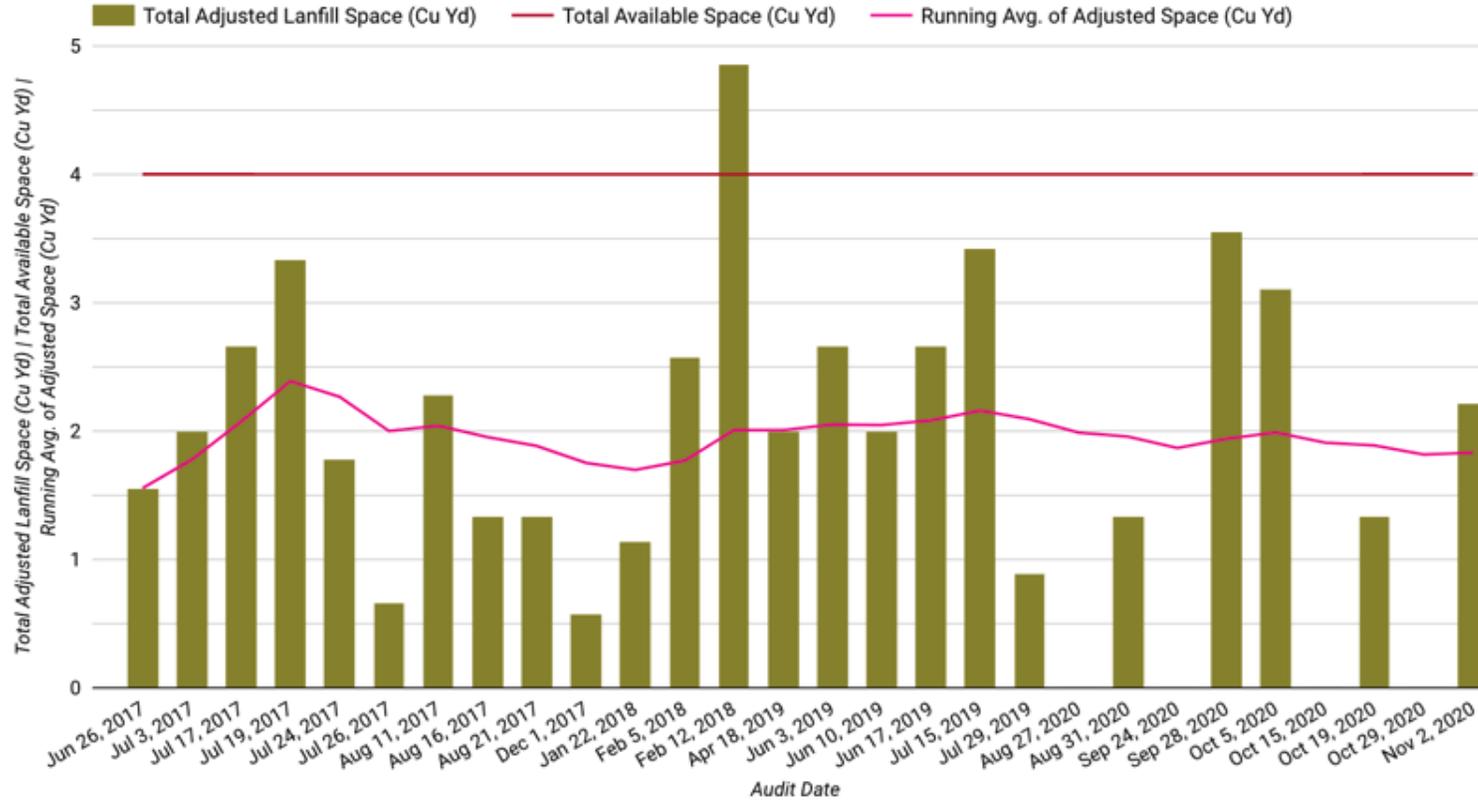
## Audit Date Results for Landfill Bins

Represents a Building's Total Adjusted Landfill Space in Comparison to the Total Available Landfill Space across time series of Audit Dates.

Average Adj. Landfill Space\* (Cu Yd)

1.83

Building: 69/75 (1)



\*Average Adjusted Space calculation is inclusive of the above normal values of Adjusted Landfill Space.



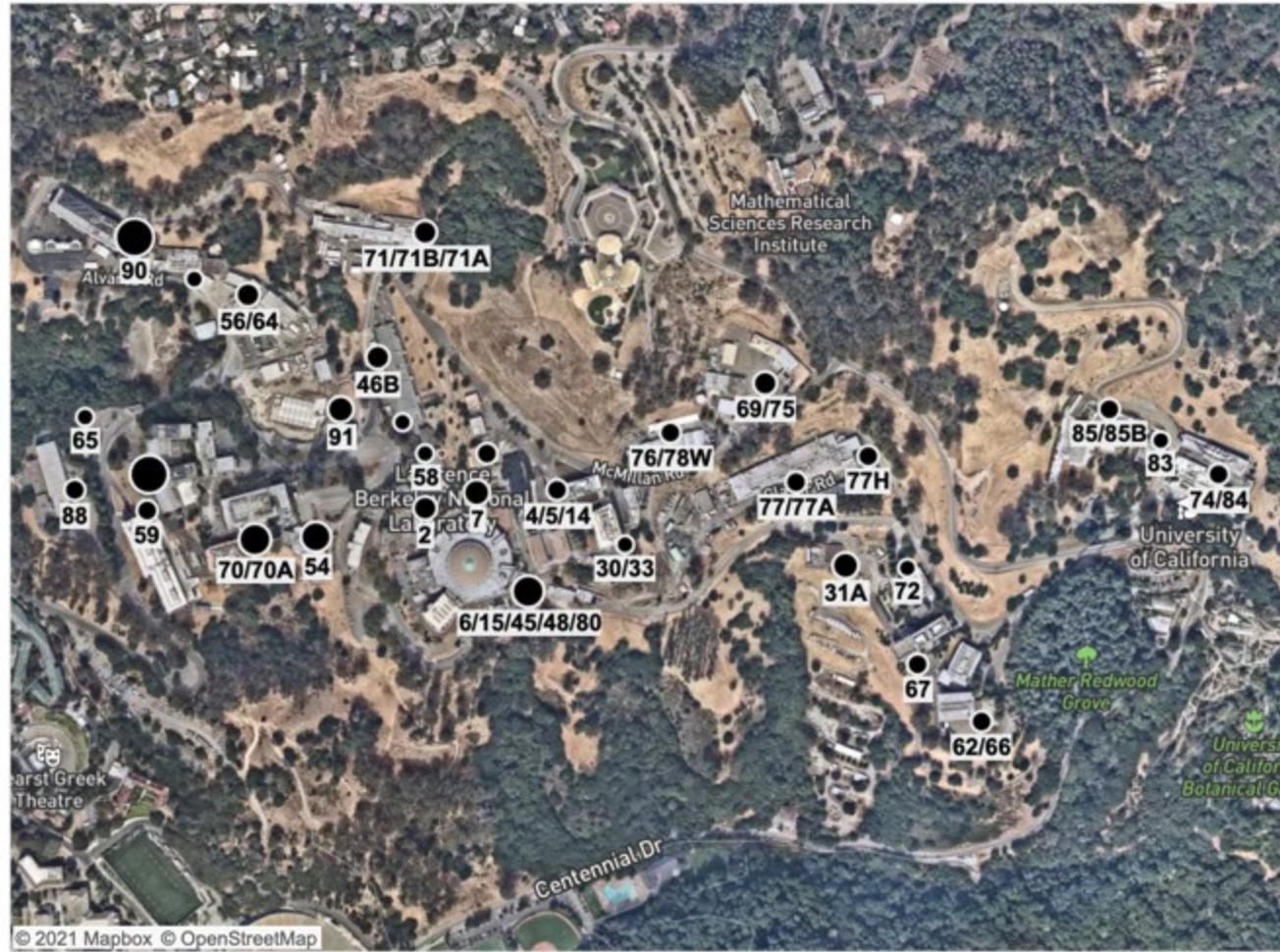
## Mean and Standard Deviation of Adjusted Landfill Space values

Data is grouped by Buildings (Location). This table is used for determining which fullness point (Adjusted Landfill Space) is considered normal or should be excluded from the Fullness Ratio calculation. Standard Deviation and Mean of Adj. Landfill Space values is averaged over all audits, and grouped by buildings. Any value that falls above the summation of mean and 1.5 standard deviation is not considered normal and excluded or Voided from Fullness Ratio calculations.

	SBLID	Building ^	Mean of Adj. Space (Cu Yd)	Standard Deviation of Adj. Space (Cu Yd)	Mean + STDDEV (Cu Yd)
1.	1	2	1.07	0.83	2.32
2.	203	50 Complex	2.26	2.62	6.18
3.	29	54	3.15	2.63	7.1
4.	73	59	2.32	2.74	6.42
5.	41	65	1.13	1.18	2.9
6.	43	67	3.41	2.96	7.85
7.	200	7	1.73	1.3	3.67
8.	52	72	0.77	1.11	2.44
9.	67	88	1.78	1.46	3.96
10.	68	90	1.01	1.39	3.09

# Dumpster Mapping

Berkeley Lab Waste Bins Map



Bin Type

Landfill

Bin Size (gallons)

- 400
- 1,000
- 1,500
- 2,000
- 2,500

Compost



Landfill



Recycling



# Next Steps

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- Reconsider technology like that remotely monitors fullness
- Building management engagement
  - Create incentives for reporting
- Structure next waste hauling contract to have on demand pickups and other incentives

# Thank You!



Brie Fulton  
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# Questions?

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*~Please utilize the chat box for questions~*



**Heidi Frasure**

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